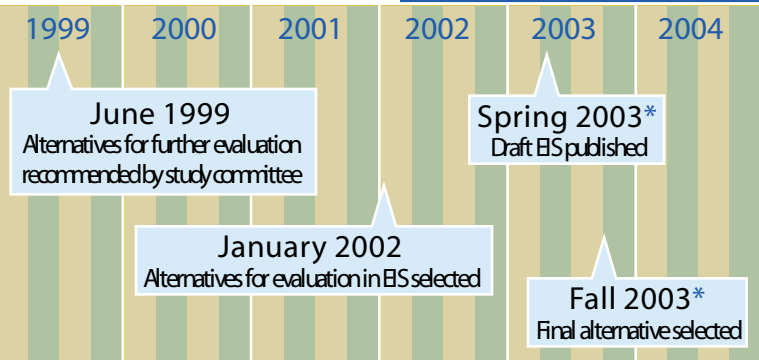


Part of a Regional Puzzle...



SR 520 is part of a regional transportation network that moves people across and around Lake Washington. Plans are moving forward on most of the region's highways to make safety improvements and/or provide people choices - buses, HOV lanes, and single-occupant cars. Without a solution on SR 520, we risk losing an important piece of the region's transportation puzzle. SR 520 is a critical transportation link to both I-5 and I-405.

Moving Forward Quickly



**Pending approval of funding.*

We'll be in your neighborhood

The Trans-Lake Washington Project team is in your neighborhood regularly. Talking to community organizations and hearing your comments on potential plans is important. Please contact us to offer your comments, invite the project team to your organization's meetings, or join the mailing list.

Website: www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/translake

E-mail: translake@wsdot.wa.gov

Project Dialogue Center: 206-448-6611

Mailing address: Trans-Lake Washington Project
c/o Washington Department of Transportation
401 Second Avenue South, Suite 300
Seattle, WA 98104

Questions?

Please contact ~

- Les Rubstello, Project Manager, WSDOT, (206) 389-3225, rubstel@wsdot.wa.gov
- Barbara Gilliland, Project Manager, Sound Transit, (206) 398-5051, Gillilandb@soundtransit.org
- Maureen Sullivan, Project Director, WSDOT, (206) 389-3961, sullivm@wsdot.wa.gov

To comment, request information, or receive mailings, write to the Trans-Lake Washington Project at the address below, call the Project Dialogue Center at (206) 448-6611, or visit the Trans-Lake Washington Project web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/translake. Our e-mail address is translake@wsdot.wa.gov. Persons with disabilities may request this information in alternative forms by calling collect (360) 664-9009, or for TTY or V devices call 1-800-486-8392.



**Trans-Lake
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APRIL 2002

Trans-Lake Washington Project Reducing Risk & Moving People on SR 520

The Washington State Department of Transportation and Sound Transit are moving quickly to replace the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge and to improve mobility in the SR 520 corridor. The aging floating bridge is vulnerable to winter storms; and long sections of all the bridges in the corridor may be vulnerable to earthquakes. Risk of failure in the next two decades is significant as the bridge is reaching the end of its design life. Travel is also unreliable because there are no shoulders on the bridge, causing traffic jams every time a car breaks down or an accident occurs. Over 100,000 cars and buses cross the lake on SR 520 every day – that's nearly 150,000 people – and a future without the current or expanded bridge is unthinkable to many of these people.

SR 520 runs through the cities of Seattle, Bellevue, and Redmond, which are the region's major employment centers. Congestion in the SR 520 corridor is among the worst in the region, and there is no longer a "reverse commute." Traffic both east and west is almost equal, and if nothing is done, travel times between Bellevue and Seattle will take nearly one hour every morning by 2020 in both directions.

Three plans are being considered:

- 1 Maintaining the current four lanes of capacity on SR 520 while replacing the floating bridge, adding shoulders, and strengthening or replacing sections of the corridor vulnerable to earthquakes;
- 2 Adding one high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)/bus rapid transit (BRT) lane in each direction; and
- 3 Adding one HOV/BRT and one general purpose lane in each direction. Each plan includes bicycle and pedestrian trails the length of the corridor. WSDOT and Sound Transit plan to select a preferred plan early in 2003, with input from the public. If funding is available, construction will begin as early as 2006.

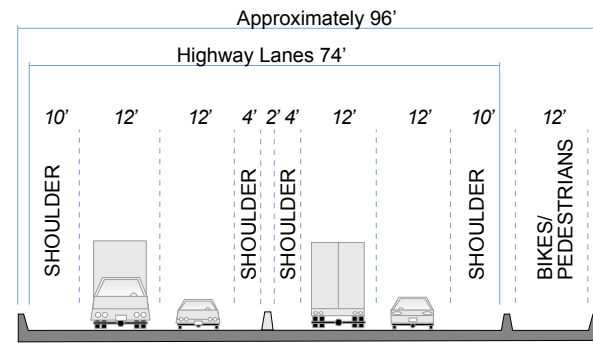
Did you know?

- Remaining life span of the floating bridge is less than 20 years.
- Built to carry 65,000 vehicles; now carries 115,000.
- Travel times will nearly double by 2020.
- Bridge closes when wind reaches 50 mph for a period of 15 minutes.

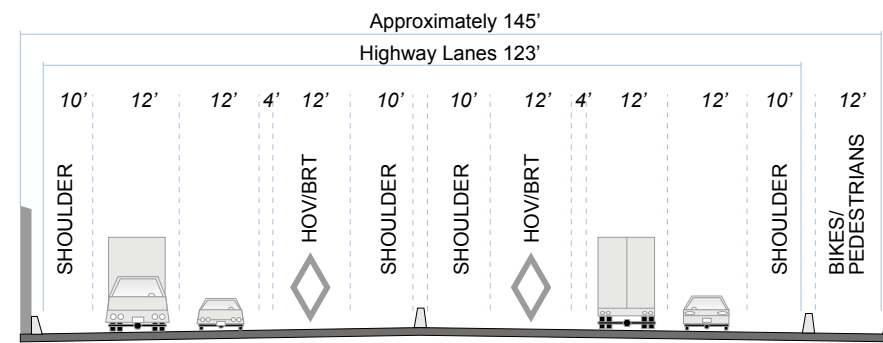


**Get
Involved!**

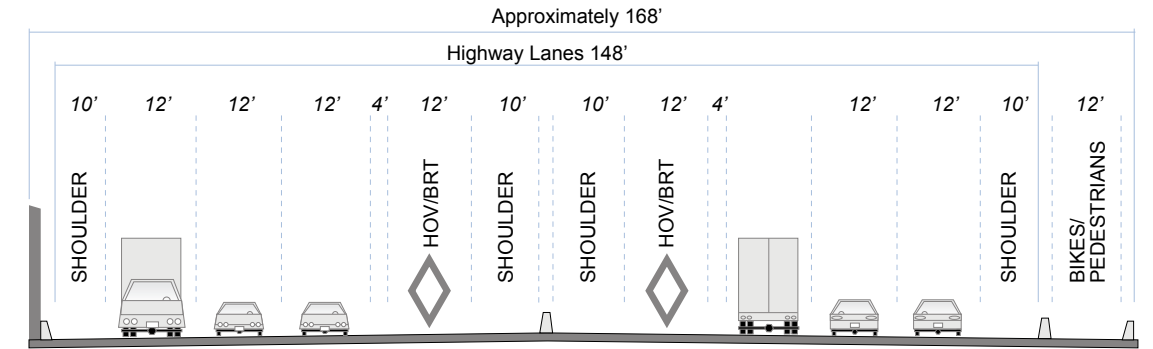
Plans and Benefits



4 Lanes



6 Lanes



8 Lanes

- ▶ Improve reliability, safety, and environmental protection throughout the corridor
- ▶ Add bicycle and pedestrian trails
- ▶ Implement aggressive transportation demand management, including opportunity for pricing
- ▶ Add shoulders for safety and vehicle breakdown refuge
- ▶ Mitigate noise impacts
- ▶ Ensure seismically safe crossing of Portage Bay and Lake Washington

- ▶ Reduce travel time across SR 520, including 10-minute savings for passengers in buses or HOV lane
- ▶ Add freeway lids to reconnect communities and provide green space

- ▶ Increase capacity with the addition of a general purpose lane in each direction

KEY: HOV = High-Occupancy Vehicle BRT = Bus Rapid Transit

The information above, and on the map below, is color-coded to show which benefits go with each plan. For example, all plans include adding bicycle and pedestrian trails -- the green piece of the pie. For the six- and eight-lane plans, fixing the Mercer weave is represented in red.

